



VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

March 3 - 17, 2021

SH-51/265th W. Avenue Intersection

Approximately 0.6 miles east of Creek
County line, Tulsa County: JP 31094(04)

www.odot.org/SH51TulsaCo



VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

The Oklahoma Department of Transportation will host a virtual open house for the SH-51/265th W. Avenue intersection in Tulsa County. This meeting will present the design for the project and allow the public to submit input. Due to concerns over the spread of COVID-19, this will be a web-based format (no in-person meeting). The information will be available beginning March 3, 2021 and comments are requested by March 17, 2021.



Purpose

The purpose of the project is to improve safety and traffic flow at the SH-51/265th W. Avenue intersection. SH-51 at this location is a 4-lane divided highway with a speed limit of 65 miles per hour (mph). The highway is on a relatively steep grade, heading downhill from the SH-151 interchange towards Mannford. There were 34 documented collisions at the intersection between 2009 and 2018. All but four of the collisions involved injury, and there was one fatality. Over 90% of the collisions involved a turning vehicle. These types of collisions tend to be more severe, especially on a high-speed facility such as SH-51. The high speeds on SH-51 as well as the narrow median, steep grades, and limited sight distance at 265th W. Avenue all contribute to the number and severity of collisions. In addition to improving safety, the project is also intended to improve traffic flow. Traffic on 265th W. Avenue wanting to turn on to or cross SH-51 often has to wait for a sufficient gap in traffic. Longer vehicles, such as buses and trucks, are unable to make a turn or cross until there are gaps in both directions on SH-51. This can lead to back-ups on 265th W. Avenue.



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**OKLAHOMA
Transportation**

February 24, 2021

Dear Stakeholders, Property Owners and Utility Owners:

Re: Intersection Modification: Median U-Turn at SH-51/265th W. Avenue, approximately 0.6 miles east of Creek County line, Tulsa County, ODOT JP No. 31094(04)

The Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing improvements to the intersection of SH-51 and 265th W. Avenue east of Mannford in Tulsa County. The purpose of this project is to improve safety and traffic flow at the intersection. There were 34 documented collisions at the intersection between 2009 and 2018. All but four of the collisions involved injury, and there was one fatality. Over 90% of the collisions involved a turning vehicle. Traffic on 265th W. Avenue wanting to turn on to or cross SH-51 must wait for a sufficient gap in traffic. Longer vehicles, such as buses and trucks, must wait until there are gaps in both directions on SH-51. This can lead to back-ups on 265th W. Avenue and cause slow-downs on SH-51.

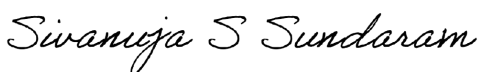
To improve safety and traffic flow, ODOT is proposing to construct a Median U-Turn (MUT) intersection at SH-51 and 265th W. Avenue. MUT intersections have been shown to reduce the number and severity of collisions by separating and simplifying traffic movements. For this project, the existing median opening at 265th W. Avenue will be closed. Traffic on 265th W. Avenue wanting to turn left or cross SH-51 will instead turn right, then make a U-Turn to go the other direction. Two U-turn locations will be constructed in the existing SH-51 median, one approximately 2,000 feet west of 265th W. Avenue and one approximately 1,550 feet east of 265th W. Avenue. Additional pavement will be added to the outside of the highway at the U-turn locations to accommodate large vehicles such as trucks and buses. The existing median opening at the 51 West Storage driveway (262nd W. Avenue) will also be closed. Drivers entering and exiting the storage facility will use the U-turns. No additional right-of-way will be required.

Due to ongoing concerns about COVID-19, ODOT will host a virtual public open house from **March 3 to 17, 2021** to present the design for the project and allow the public to submit input. This pamphlet contains additional information about the virtual public open house.

If you are leasing this property, please notify your lessee of this virtual public open house.

Should you have any questions regarding this project, please email environment@odot.org, or call 405-325-3269 and leave a detailed message.

Respectfully,



Siv Sundaram, P.E.

Environmental Programs Division Engineer

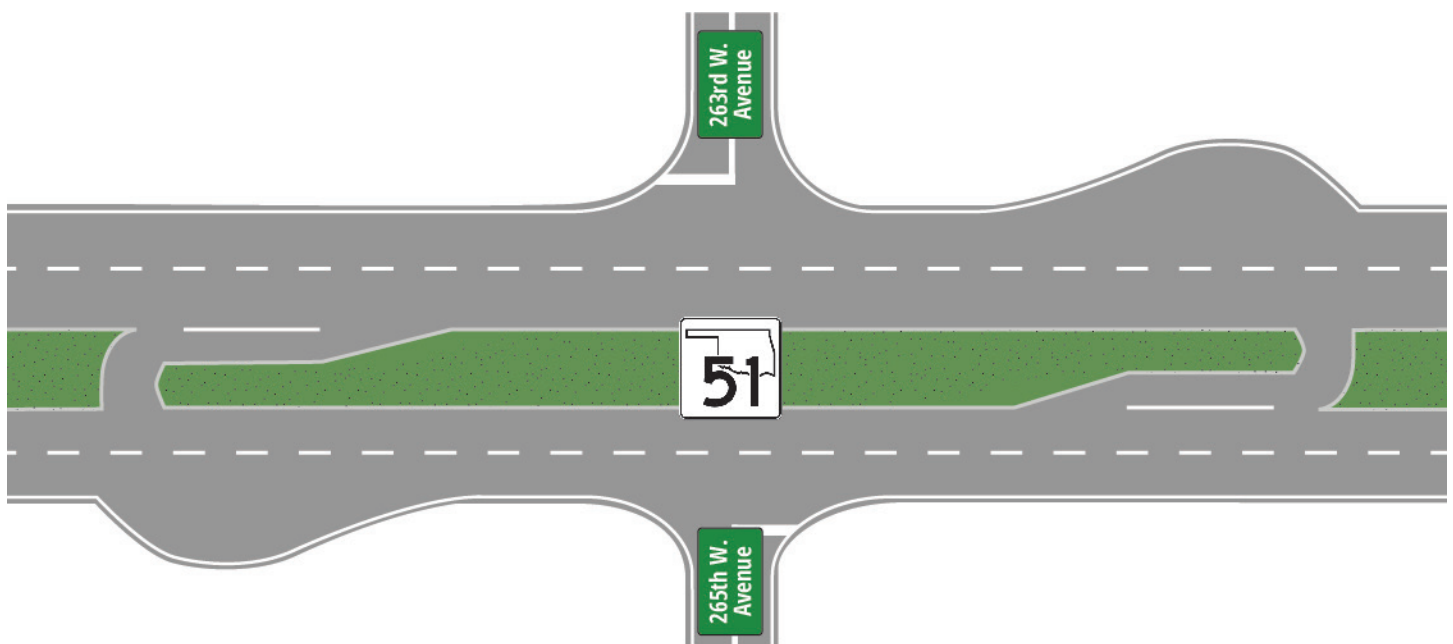
The Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) ensures that no person or groups of persons shall, on the grounds of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, retaliation or genetic information, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any and all programs, services, or activities administered by ODOT, its recipients, sub-recipients, and contractors. To request an accommodation please contact the ADA Coordinator at 405-521-4140 or the Oklahoma Relay Service at 1-800-722-0353 no later than 72 hours before any scheduled event. If you have any ADA or Title VI questions email ODOT-ada-titlevi@odot.org.

"The mission of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation is to provide a safe, economical, and effective transportation network for the people, commerce and communities of Oklahoma."

Project Description

ODOT proposes to construct a Median U-Turn (MUT) intersection at SH-51 and 265th W. Avenue. This innovative intersection type is often used on 4-lane divided highways to provide a safer way for cross-street traffic to turn on to or cross the highway. MUT intersections have been shown to reduce the number and severity of collisions. For this project, the existing median opening at 265th W. Avenue will be closed. Traffic on 265th W. Avenue wanting to turn left or cross SH-51 will instead turn right, then make a U-Turn to go the other direction. Two U-turn locations will be constructed in the existing SH-51 median, one approximately 2,000 feet west of 265th W. Avenue and one approximately 1,550 feet east of 265th W. Avenue. The locations of the U-turns were designed to provide sufficient merge lengths and sight distance. Additional pavement will be added to the outside of the highway at the U-turn locations to accommodate large vehicles such as trucks and buses. The existing median opening at the 51 West Storage driveway will also be closed. Drivers entering and exiting the storage facility will use the MUT intersection.

No additional right-of-way will be required to construct the project. Construction is currently anticipated to begin in Summer of 2022, with construction taking approximately 4 months. SH-51 and 265th W. Avenue will remain open during construction, and access will be provided to all businesses at all times.



MUT Intersections

A Median U-Turn, or MUT, intersection is an intersection design that restricts left turns at an intersection, but allows the same movement downstream via a U-turn. The MUT falls under a group of strategies often referred to as conflict point management. The goal of an MUT is to restrict or relocate certain movements to improve a road's overall safety and reduce delays. The basic MUT restricts the incoming and outgoing side streets to right turn movements only. Vehicles that want to turn left, or cross to the opposite side street, must do so indirectly by first turning right onto the mainline, weaving across to the left most lane to complete a U-turn, and then traveling back to the intersection in question to complete their desired movement. The MUT intersection proposed for SH-51 and 265th W. Avenue will also relocate the mainline left turns, directing those movements beyond the intersection to the U-turn location.

